



STEVE KINSEY
4th District County of Marin

September 22, 1999

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
C/O Rick Breitenbach
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Sacramento, CA 95814

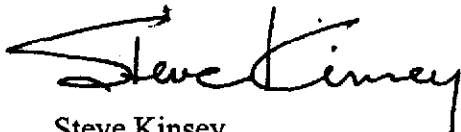
Dear CALFED program participants,

Attached please find a resolution by the Marin County Board of Supervisors which emphasizes our concern that the health of the Bay/Delta Estuary and the interests of the Bay Area are not adequately addressed in the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

The Marin County Board of Supervisors recognizes the need to maintain a viable agricultural industry in Marin and throughout the State of California. We believe that opportunities exist to establish reliable water supplies for agriculture while participating in meaningful conservation and restoration.

If you have any questions please contact me at any time.

Sincerely,



Steve Kinsey
Marin County Supervisor

SK/lc

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RESOLUTION NO. 99-106

RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, the health of the San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary and the diverse ecosystems it supports are fundamental to the environmental well being of the entire Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, much of the Bay Area's economic vitality is supported by the Bay/Delta estuary, including industries such as tourism, recreational and commercial fishing; and

WHEREAS, the Bay/Delta estuary's health is in rapid decline, manifested by various indicators including dramatic reductions in fish populations, and due to a variety of devastating impacts, including the diversion of over 50 percent of its flows from the watershed's rivers, the loss of over 85 percent of historic wetlands, and the discharge of 40,000 tons of pollutants into the Bay; and

WHEREAS, since 1994 the Federal Government and the State of California, in conjunction with agricultural, urban and environmental stakeholders, have undertaken an effort to address the remarkably complex water resource issues of the Bay/Delta ecosystem through a process known as CalFed; and

WHEREAS, in the CalFed process the current public comment period for the Draft Programmatic EIR/EIS provides a critical opportunity for input on the issues affecting the San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Marin County Board of Supervisors does hereby identify that the following essential elements must be incorporated into future policies and programs undertaken by the CalFed process:

- A guarantee that there will be adequate freshwater flows into the Bay - The San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary's historic freshwater flows have been reduced by half. Currently there exists a need for science-based standards that establish minimum flows of freshwater into the Bay. Adequate flows will benefit the entire estuary in diverse ways, including improving water quality, supporting biological diversity, and the health of all of the Bay/Delta estuary's ecosystems.
- Water conservation by all users - Equitable water conservation practices must be required and enforced for all users throughout California. Managing demand through conservation practices and greater water use efficiency can eliminate or substantially reduce the need to construct new storage facilities. Until conservation practices and demand management have been implemented and monitored, the construction of new storage facilities should not be initiated.
- A fair share of funding for Bay Area environmental restoration efforts - The EPA's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), BCDC's San Francisco Bay Plan, and the RWQCB's Bay Basin Plan all establish numerous beneficial measures that must be taken to protect and restore habitat and improve fish and wildlife in the Bay/Delta estuary. Of the most recent funding package only 5% came to projects in the region. Funding to implement these recommended programs must be brought up to levels that are appropriately proportional to budgets for environmental restoration in other parts of the State.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held on this 27th day of July, 1999, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS Cynthia L. Murray, Harold C. Brown, Jr., Steve Kinsey,
John B. Kress, Annette Rose

NOES: NONE